

HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

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Serving the U.S. Army community in Hawaii

June 18, 2004

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Safety Fair

The Fort Shafter Military Police Battalion and Tripler Army Medical Center Community Health is sponsoring a Safety Fair from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 25 at the Aliamnu Military Reservation Fitness Center. All are welcome. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Edward Joslyn or Sgt. 1st Class Dailey at 833-2232.

4th of July Spectacular

The 33rd annual 4th of July Spectacular will take place at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks on July 4. There will be a 5K Fun Run beginning at 9 a.m., and a Children's 1-mile Fun Run beginning at 10 a.m. There will be food booths, a games and rides midway, crafts and new products bazaar and a vintage military car show beginning at 10 a.m. The Opiki Pickers, Kaala Boys, Da Braddahs, Tani Lynn and Jordan Segundo will perform on the Oceanic Stage between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. On the Main Stage, Tino and the Rhythm Klub will perform at 4:30 p.m.. and internationally-known vocalist Sandi Patty will perform at 5:45 and 7 p.m. The 25th ID (L) Band's "1812 Overture" will begin at 7:45 p.m. Fireworks with music by 25th ID (L) Band will begin at 8:30 p.m. From 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., visitors can enter to win a new Chevy S-10 Pickup truck. The event is free and open to the public. For more information visit the MWR Web site at www.mwrarmy-hawaii.com.

Commissary Closure

The Schofield Barracks Commissary will be closed on July 4 for Independence Day. Normal business hours will resume July 5. For more information, call Linda Cuomo at 655-5066.

Community First Aid and Safety

The American Red Cross Schofield Barracks is offering training in Community First Aid and Safety. This course covers adult, child and infant CPR along with first aid training. The course will be held 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 26 at the Red Cross located on the third floor of the Aloha Center, Bldg. 690 on Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$28. Register at the Red Cross Office by June 25 to hold a space. For more information, call 655-4927.

Army gets new combat uniform



U.S. Army photo

Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Program Executive Office NCOIC, sports the Army Combat Uniform, the recently approved wear for Soldiers. It contains 20 new improvements.

By Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The Army will be fielding a new combat uniform designed by NCOs and tested by Stryker Brigade Soldiers in Iraq since October.

On the Army's 229th birthday, senior leadership introduced the Army Combat Uniform during a Pentagon cake-cutting ceremony. Soldiers were on display, suited-up in the wrinkle-free uniform with a digitized camouflage pattern.

Three different versions of the ACU have been developed, and more than 10,000 uniforms have been produced and dragged through the sand in Iraq and at Army training centers. Even more are on American production lines to be issued by April 2005 to Soldiers in deploying units. Fielding to the total Army should be complete by December 2007, said officials from the Program Executive Office, known as PEO Soldier.

There were 20 changes made to the uniform, to include removing the color black and adapting the digital print from the Marine Corps uniform to meet the needs of the Army, said Sgt. 1st Class Jeff

Myhre, the Clothing and Individual Equipment noncommissioned officer in charge.

Black is no longer useful on the uniform because it is not a color commonly found in nature. The drawback to black is that its color immediately catches the eye, he added.

"The color scheme in the ACU capitalizes on the environments that we operate in," Myhre said. "The current colors on the ACU are green-woodland, grey-urban environments and sand brown-desert. The pattern is not a 100-percent solution in every environment, but a good solution across the board."

"This isn't about a cosmetic redesign of the uniform," said Col. John Norwood, the project manager for Clothing and Individual Equipment. "It's a functionality change of the uniform that will improve the ability of Soldiers to execute their combat mission."

Every change was made for a reason. The bottom pockets on the jacket were removed and placed on the shoulder sleeves so Soldiers can have access to them while wearing body armor. The pockets were also tilted forward so that they are easily accessible. Buttons were replaced

with zippers that open from the top and bottom to provide comfort while wearing armor.

Patches and tabs are affixed to the uniform with Velcro to give the wearer more flexibility and to save the Soldier money, Myhre said. Soldiers can take the name-tapes and patches off their uniforms before laundering, which will add to the lifecycle of the patches. Also the cost to get patches sewn on will be eliminated, he added.

The ACU will consist of a jacket, trousers, moisture wicking t-shirt and the brown combat boots. It will replace both versions of the BDU and the desert camouflage uniform. The black beret will be the normal headgear for the ACU, but there is a matching patrol cap to be worn at the commander's discretion.

At \$88 per uniform, about \$30 more than the BDU, Soldiers will eventually reap gains in money and time by not having to take uniforms to the cleaners or shine boots.

The life of the ACU began in January 2003 when PEO Soldier teamed with Myhre, Master Sgt. Alex Samoba and Staff Sgt. Matt Goodine - from the 1st Stryker

See "New Uniform" Page A-3

Geraldo gets 'at large' with 3rd BCT



Sgt. Christopher Kaufmann

Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th ID (L), watch as FOX News reporter Geraldo Rivera does a live show in Kandahar, Afghanistan, on Sunday.

USAG-HI welcomes new commander

By Spc. Len Cutler
Staff writer

The U.S. Army, Hawaii community bid a fond farewell to some of its most dedicated members, at the same time welcoming a new set of faces into the fold, during a change of command ceremony Wednesday at Schofield Barracks' Sills Field.

During the ceremony, Col. Howard J. Killian assumed command of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii from Col. David L. Anderson, who will retire from active-duty service.

Anderson, who commanded USAG-HI since June 2002, will end a career marked, according to many, by excellence and unwavering commitment to the Soldiers and families in Hawaii.

"Colonel Anderson has been

a major force for the Installation Management Agency in the Pacific region," said Stanley Sokoloski, IMA's Pacific Area Region director, adding that Anderson has demonstrated "absolute professionalism" in addressing environmental concerns and issues.

Anderson thanked everyone in attendance for their support, saying that the men and women who make up the team working to support the Soldiers of the Pacific region "are on the verge of greatness," and dared them to face the challenge of adapting to the changes the Army community will face in the coming years. Anderson said he is confident Killian will be successful in addressing whatever challenges he faces as commander.

See "CoC" Page A-3

USARHAW celebrates Army's birthday

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen
Editor

Soldiers of U.S. Army, Hawaii celebrated the Army's 229th birthday Monday with a four-mile run through Schofield Barracks.

Before starting the run, an Army tradition was upheld as the oldest and youngest Soldiers in the formation took part in the ceremo-

nial cutting of the birthday cake. Pvt. 2 Lindsay Klingberg, a supply specialist from HHC, 25th ID (L), who was born Aug. 27, 1985, and Col. Jim Boersema, commander of the 1101st Garrison Support Unit, who was born Sept. 10, 1945, did the honors.

"From the very first days of our army until today, we have proven time and again we are the best



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

Stanley Sokoloski, director of the IMA Pacific Area Region, passes the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii colors to incoming commander Col. Howard J. Killian Wednesday at Schofield Barracks.

army the modern world has ever known," said Col. Dave McKenna, USARHAW commander, as he addressed the formation. "We are proud of that title, but know these days what comes with the title world's best army - what comes with that title rests just one truth: it's no longer a question of if a

See "Army B-day" Page A-3



Spc. Sean Kimmons

Sgt. Charles Bohner, a squad leader with Btry. C, TF 2-11 FA, hands out candy to Kharabrud children concluding the health clinic and school ground breaking ceremonies May 31.

Task Force 2-11 FA improves quality of life in Iraqi village

Spc. Sean Kimmons
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

KHARABRUD, Iraq – It had to be an exciting day for the people of this small village when Soldiers of Task Force 2-11 Field Artillery, 96th Civil Affairs Battalion and the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps came here May 31.

It was a day of two significant ceremonies for the village and its surrounding communities, as a new health clinic was opened and a ground breaking ceremony was held to mark the start of construction on a new elementary school.

The new health clinic replaces a one-room shack that was previously used by the village for their medical care. This was one of the reasons, 1st Lt. Edward "Tripp" Baldwin, physician assistant for TF 2-11 FA, wanted to build a new health clinic.

"The thing that impressed me about the Kharabrud village was that the sheik out there was renting a shack and he had a paramedic run a clinic out of it," Baldwin said. "They were doing that all by themselves, which to me said they were actually trying to help themselves. That's why I wanted to see if I could do something to help them."

Baldwin, along with the assistance of Iraq's Ministry of Health, moved a health clinic project from another village to Kharabrud, where it could affect more people.

"It took more than two months to get the clinic project to this area where 20 to 25 villages can seek health care at this clinic in Kharabrud," Baldwin said.

The new clinic has two rooms, a restroom, running water, electricity and air conditioning.

"In Kharabrud, it is by far the nicest building in the whole village," Baldwin said.

Ziydan Ahmad Khalaf, the head physician at the Kharabrud clinic, said he was very glad to have the new clinic.

"We've never had anything like this before," Khalaf said. "It will help serve the people in this area, including the other villages."

The total cost for the clinic was about \$17,000,

See "Kharabrud" Page A-3

OPINION & COMMENTARY

Friday

A-2

June 18, 2004

48-hour adventure in Afghanistan

Commentary

Maj. Stacy Bathrick
CJTF 76 Public Affairs Office

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – I recently escorted media on an intense mission. Traveling from the eastern-most part of the country to the western sector, we covered three separate combat operations within a 48-hour period.

The experiences I had on this mission changed my perspective on life forever and taught me to appreciate everything I have. I quickly came to the profound realization that there are anti-coalition forces who do not want us here. I also realized how important our presence is for a secure and stable future.

Our first link-up was with young, confident Soldiers from 2 Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment on a combat patrol. Since many of them had previously been engaged in combat, I felt safe. I knew they would be ready if we encountered enemy along the way.

Their mission was to secure a former Russian fort. When we completed the mission safely, I felt comfortable with the Soldiers around me. They proved themselves well trained and able to handle intense situations.

We left the patrol with 2-27 Inf. Regt. and flew in a Blackhawk helicopter over the desert flat land of Afghanistan and landing in the mountains on the eastern side of the country.

As the sun began to set we found ourselves with other 2-27 Inf. Regt. Soldiers at a forward operating base close to the Pakistani border when we received warning that a rocket was fired at our

base. As I went to establish accountability of our media representatives – I was only able to locate a cameraman – I saw coalition forces around me diving for cover and yelling at us to get down.

The cameraman and I immediately ran into a small building and could hear the sound of another rocket impacting near our base. I will never forget the feeling. A variety of thoughts raced through my head and I was incredibly shaken. I had to appear strong for the reporters because I knew that in this situation I had to take care of them as if they were my own soldiers.

The next morning at first light we joined 2-27 Inf. Regt. Soldiers on a mounted and dismounted combat patrol. Our mission was to search for the enemy who attacked our base. We drove to the base of a mountain range and visited two small villages. In both villages, the convoy commander quizzed village elders asking them if they knew about the launching of any rockets. The elders informed us they had no knowledge of any rockets fired from their area.

We left the villages and walked to the base of the mountain to search for any signs of enemy activity. One Soldier identified someone standing atop the mountain. We then climbed one of the steepest mountains in that region. At many points along the hike the incline was almost vertical and we were all using our hands and feet to climb. It was a vigorous climb and I searched for a way to motivate myself to make the hike along with the media.

I reminded myself of why we are here and instantly had the energy and drive to make it to the

top. I remembered the attacks on innocent Americans on 9-11 and how we could make a difference for coalition forces and the Afghan people on this very patrol. By searching for enemy forces and the possible source of the attack, we could deter future attacks on the forward operating base.

We all had a tremendous sense of accomplishment once we made it to the top of the mountain, approximately 8,000 feet above sea level. We felt pride not only because we made it to the top but also because we identified a possible rocket launch site and the grid coordinates needed to deter future attacks.

We moved from this combat patrol to another one with a completely different outcome.

Both patrols were with units from the 3rd Brigade "Broncos." The second patrol was with the 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., a platoon from the 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt. along with a platoon from the Afghan National Army (ANA). They were conducting a dismounted combat patrol in the western sector of the country. They were traveling to a village they had never been to and did not know what the outcome would be. However, as usual they were prepared for anything.

When we arrived the patrol leader asked the village elder if they had any concerns for their security. It was apparent by the constant stares we received from the villagers that they may never have seen Americans before.

The elder said the Taliban came into their village a month ago and closed the schools where 1,000 children were attending. He also said the Taliban threatened to harm the villagers if they reopened the schools.

While the patrol leader was conversing with the village elder, one man approached an interpreter and asked for medical treatment. The unit medic responded immediately with first aid and the villagers looked on evidently amazed at how willing we were to help them.

Before we left the village the patrol leader asked if there was anything the coalition forces could do for the people of the village. The patrol leader was able to respond immediately with school supplies and a radio. It was amazing to see the signs of hope on the faces of the Afghan people.

We could all see that the Afghan people were grateful that the coalition forces are here to assist and they are so gracious for the security our forces are providing for them.

There were positive signs of hope and newfound freedom in the faces of every villager—young and old.

As we departed the village to return to the 2-35 Inf. Regt. assembly area, the villagers followed us curious where we were going.

During the return to the assembly area I realized the significant impact the coalition forces are making in Afghanistan. We are providing so much hope for a stable and secure environment for the Afghan people by everything we do.

We are making a difference in a variety of ways from deterring enemy threat through our presence and our actions to building relations with the Afghan people.

I'm sure that when the 2-35 Inf. Regt. and ANA Soldiers return to the village they will see children attending school once again and the villagers will know that they have freedom they have never known before.

Flag has been powerful symbol, rallying point

Commentary

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – It wasn't all that long ago that everyone seemed to be flying an American flag.

In the days and weeks after the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, American flags sprouted from everywhere.

At the World Trade Center site, New York firemen hoisted an American flag amid the rubble. At the Pentagon, workers paused and saluted as a huge garrison flag was draped next to the impact point.

Flags sprouted on minivans and motorcycles. People raised flags on new flagpoles on front lawns and atop apartment buildings. It seemed that every overpass on interstate highways had a flag. And this doesn't count the millions of decals, rub-ons and bumper stickers that featured the flag.

That was the latest manifestation of the flag of the United States of America as a symbol for all that the country stands for.

It seems in time of crisis, the flag is a rallying point.

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress approved the U.S. flag and detailed the composition. Originally, it was literally a rallying point for the troops of the Continental Army. In battle, the unit flag was the center of mass, and from the area around the flag commanders gave orders and rallied troops.

The flag as a symbol of

America grew out of the War of 1812. Francis Scott Key was so inspired by the sight of the American flag flying over Fort McHenry on Sept. 12, 1814, that he wrote "The Star Spangled Banner."

"And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night, that our flag was still there."

These words inspire Americans today, and when U.S. citizens see the flag they are reminded that America is still "the land of the free, and the home of the brave."

The American flag has become more than just a red, white and blue design. It has become a symbol of what we stand for as a country. America reunited under the flag following the Civil War. The American flag flew at the Marne in World War I and at Iwo Jima during World War II.

The American flag flew at Porkchop Hill in Korea and Hamburger Hill in Vietnam. It has flown over Grenada, Kuwait, Kabul and Baghdad. It covers the caskets of the fallen as they come home. And just last week, we saw it adorn the coffin of President Ronald Reagan, who in life created new respect for the stars and stripes.

The United States is more than just land fortunately located in North America. The United States is a republic, and Americans do not swear fealty to royalty or land or nobility. Rather, Americans swear to uphold the Constitution of the United States, and the American flag is a symbol of that oath.

On Flag Day, remember that oath and those who have died for the freedom the American flag represents.

Voices of Lightning

How will you observe Fathers Day?



"I will give my dad a present I made in class."

Zhane Chapman
Family Member



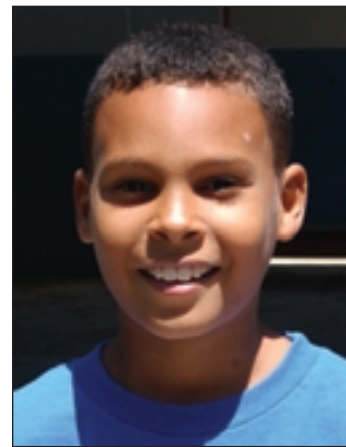
"I'll spend time with the family and relax."

Sgt. Scott Homsted
HHC, 25th ID (L)
Health Care Specialist



"Me and my mom are going to fix my dad some breakfast."

Terrell Wilson
Family Member



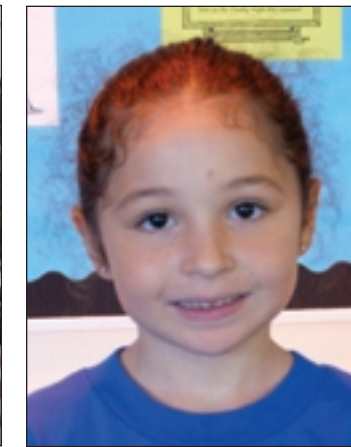
"I'm going to e-mail him and make a little something for him."

Jaelen Gadson
Family Member



"My wife and I are going out to dinner. I'll enjoy spending time with her."

Sgt. Maj. Billy Thompson
HHC, 25th ID (L)
G3 Sergeant Major



"I'm going to hang out with my dad."

Theresa Leo
Family Member

The Hawaii Army Weekly is an authorized newspaper and is published in the interest of the U.S. Army community in Hawaii.

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New Uniform

From A-1

Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash.

The team looked at a number of uniforms and took the best part of each uniform and combined it into one. They built their first prototype and delivered 25 uniforms to Stryker squads at the National Training Center. After listening to their comments, the team went back to the lab and created prototype two.

Twenty-one uniforms were then delivered to Stryker Soldiers at the Joint Training and Readiness Center, Fort Polk, La.

"We watched them as they entered and cleared rooms, as they carried their rucksack and all of the things they had to be able to do in the uniform, and then we came up with prototype three," Myhre said.

Two issues of the third version were given to the Stryker Soldiers deploying to Iraq. Three months ago, Myhre was among a team who visited Iraq to get more feedback from Soldiers.

"We would talk to Soldiers right after they had completed a mission while the benefits of the uniform were still fresh in their minds," he said. "We

wanted to know how did the uniform help the mission."

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston is one of the ACU's biggest supporters. He said major command sergeants major had a chance to see the uniform and give advice on the final version.

"This new uniform performs well in multiple environments," Preston said. "Its new pockets and color designs are a result of feedback from Soldiers in combat. Every modification made on the uniform was designed with a specific purpose and not just for the sake of change."

Uniform changes include:

1. Mandarin collar that can be worn up or down
2. Rank insignia centered on the front of the blouse
3. Velcro for wearing unit patch, skill tabs and recognition devices
4. Zippered front closure
5. Elbow pouch for internal elbow pad inserts
6. Knee pouch for internal knee pad inserts
7. Draw string leg cuff
8. Tilted chest pockets with Velcro closure
9. Three-slot pen pocket on bottom of sleeve
10. Velcro sleeve cuff closure
11. Shoulder pockets with Velcro
12. Forward tilted cargo pockets
13. Integrated blouse bellows for increased upper body mobility
14. Integrated Friend or Foe Identification Square on both left and right shoulder pocket flap.
15. Bellowed calf storage pocket on left and right leg
16. Moisture-wicking desert tan t-shirt
17. Patrol Cap with double thick bill and internal pocket
18. Improved hot-weather desert boot or temperate-weather desert boot
19. Two-inch, black nylon web belt
20. Moisture-wicking socks

CoC

From A-1

Killian is the former commander of the Aviation Center Logistics Command at Fort Rucker, Ala. Other assignments include tours in support of the Global War on Terror, most recently as Logistics Officer for the Special Operation Command – Europe during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Killian thanked Anderson for his support, saying his predecessor "has raised the bar pretty high."

Killian also thanked the Hawaii community for giving his family a warm welcome, and ended the ceremony with a traditional Hawaiian saying adopted by the military community: "Malama Na Koa," which means "caring for the warrior."

Army B-day

From A-1

Soldier will be deployed, it's now a matter of when and where that Soldier will be deployed into harm's way.

McKenna said evidence of that statement stood out in the formation, as more than 10,500 Tropic Lightning Soldiers are deployed across a dozen countries in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

McKenna asked all the Soldiers to reflect as they ran Monday and every day afterwards on the fact that in the past six months, seven Tropic Lightning Soldiers have made the ultimate sacrifice and more than 100 have received the Purple Heart.

"We need to ask ourselves each day, is our service worthy of their sacrifices," McKenna said. "If we answer yes, then we have done honor to their sacrifices. If we hesitate in response, then our duty is to give more."

At the Pentagon, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker, acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz also held a cake-cutting ceremony in honor of the Army's birthday.

"Two-hundred and twenty-nine years is a long time and a lot has changed since George Washington took command of the Army 229 years ago," Schoomaker said. From that time, through today, Soldiers have always answered the call to defend the United States, believing in the same values – placing freedom first in more than 120 countries today, he said.

Those values are represented in the Army flag's 175 campaign ribbons, Brownlee said, "and in the hearts of all those who have served our country.

"Though the Army is changing in many ways to better meet its commitments today, its values are not," Brownlee said.

Speaking after the Pentagon ceremony, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston reflected on the changes he has seen in his 29 years of service.

"The Army birthday is a time to reflect where we have been as an Army, where we are right now and what lies ahead in the future," Preston said.

(Editor's note: some information for this story came from an Army News Service article written by Joe Burlas.)



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

Pvt. 2 Lindsay Klingberg, Col. Dave McKenna and Col. Jim Boersema cut the birthday cake Monday at Schofield Barracks.

Kharabrud

From A-1

which came from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team Commander Emergency Relief Program funds.

During their time in Iraq, the Soldiers of TF 2-11 FA have helped renovate four health clinics, including a veterinary clinic in their area of operations.

Spc. Guillermo Castaneda, a M240B gunner with Battery C, TF 2-11 FA, was present during the Kharabrud clinic opening and said it felt great to help the Iraqi people.

"A lot of these people do not have the facilities they need, and many get sick from diseases that can be prevented," Castaneda said.

Following the health clinic opening, a ground breaking ceremony was held for an elementary school that will be attached to the health clinic.

The school project will renovate an existing out of date school, where more than 100 children will attend.

"We're going to fix this

school as a gift to the children of Kharabrud," Capt. Whitney Campbell, commander of Btry. C, TF 2-11 FA, said during the ground breaking.

"Children are the future of this country," Campbell said. "We have to provide them a good place to go to school, so we can take care of the long range problem in this country and prepare these children to be future leaders of their country."

In March, Forward Operating Base Dibbis, where many Btry. C, TF 2-11 FA Soldiers reside, had three rockets land about 150 meters away. Since then, there hasn't been any more. Baldwin thinks this is because of the projects his unit is completing in the area.

"I don't know if it's winning hearts and minds, I think its helping us not get shot at ...," Baldwin said.

It must be winning something, as more and more Iraqi citizens are informing the Soldiers of weapon caches and improvised explosive devices in this area.

Briefs

Play Soccer – American Youth Soccer Organization Region 188 will hold registration for Fall 2004 season at the Hickam Air Force Base BXTRA from 3 to 6 pm Saturday. Registration cost is \$55. If first time registration with AYSO Region 188, bring proof of date of birth. Any questions about the season, information on how to pre-register a player or how to become a volunteer, visit the Web site: www.aysoregion188.org or call registrar at 834-5979.

Safety Fair – The Fort Shafter MP Battalion and Tripler Army Medical Center Community Health is sponsoring a Safety Fair from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 25 at the Aliamnu Military Reservation Gym. All are welcome. For more info, contact Sgt. 1st Class Edward Joslyn or Sgt. 1st Class Dwayne at 833-2232.

Commissary Closure – The Schofield Barracks Commissary will be closed on July 4 for Independence Day. Normal business hours will resume July 5. For more information, call Linda Cuomo at 655-5066.

American Red Cross Medical Assistant Program – The purpose of the program is to provide selected student volunteers with knowledge and hands on training to competently assist in medical office procedures and potentially compete successfully for employment. This is not a certification program. Applications will be released and accepted from July 1 - 16. Applicants should have two letters of recommendation included with application. Applications will be available at the Red Cross Office located on the third floor of the Aloha Center, Bldg. 690 on Schofield Barracks. Applicant must be at least 18 years old; possess a valid military ID card and be entitled to Tricare health Benefits; be willing to participate in all

learning activities to include rotations through all clinic areas along with introduction to phlebotomy; have at least eight months remaining on the island at the beginning of the course; and successfully complete CPR for the professional rescuer. Training will begin in September and end in March. This program requires a significant amount of volunteer hours and a serious commitment to the staff and patients at the Schofield Barracks Medical Clinic. For more information, call 655-4927.

Community First Aid and Safety – The American Red Cross Schofield Barracks is offering training in Community First Aid and Safety. This course covers adult/child/infant CPR along with first aid training. The course will be held 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 26 at the Red Cross located on the third floor of the Aloha Center, Bldg. 690 on Schofield Barracks. Cost is \$28. Register at the Red Cross Office by June 25 to hold a space. For more information, call 655-4927.

Employment in Hawaii – This workshop is the first step in helping find the job you want. Learn how to prepare for the job search process. Get employment information on federal, state, private sector and staffing agencies. See the reference materials, job listings, computers, etc. that are available for use at the Army Community Service employment area. Workshops will be held today and June 25 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Schofield Barracks ACS, Bldg. 2091. For more information or to register, call 655-2400.

Thrift Shop Closure – The Hui O' Na Wahine Thrift Shop on Schofield Baracks will be closed for cleaning during the month of July. It will reopen Aug. 3 and will resume its Tuesday and Thursday schedule. The Thrift Shop is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and the first

Upcoming changes of command

732nd Military Intelligence Battalion – Lt. Col. Joseph V. Pacileo will assume command of the 732nd MI Bn., which is part of the 115th MI Group, from Lt. Col. Stephen G. Hood at 9 a.m. Wednesday at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks.

45th Corps Support Group (Forward) – Col. Stanley Tunstall will assume command of 45th CSG (F) from Col. Dave McKenna at 10 a.m. June 24 at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks. For more information, call Master Sgt. Edward Penafiel at 655-8563.

25th Military Police Battalion – Lt. Col. Tony Carr will assume command of the 25th MP Bn. from Lt. Col. Sabrina Webb at 10 a.m. June 30 at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks.

Saturday of the month. Consignments are accepted from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are still needed. For more information, call the Thrift Shop at 624-3254.

OCS Selection Board – The September 2004 Department of the Army Officer Candidate School Board has been cancelled. The next HQDA OCS Selection Board is scheduled to convene the week of Jan. 24, 2005. Soldiers who wish to be considered by this selection board must submit their applications through command channels to Military Personnel Division, DA Boards Section, Trailer #14, Room 4, (located on Ayers Avenue) Schofield Barracks between Nov. 1 and 18, 2004. The Installation Structured Interview Panel will convene Dec. 6, 2004 to interview qualified applicants. Specific interview dates, times and location will be provided to each individual applicant. Eligibility criteria and application procedures are outlined in AR 350-51. The education requirement to apply for OCS is a minimum of 90 semester hours and verified by the Education Center. For Soldiers who do not possess a baccalaureate degree, a Scholastic Aptitude Test (850

or higher) or American College Test (19 or higher) not older than 6 years is required. Ensure to take test in sufficient time, allowing at least 3 to 4 weeks to receive results prior to packet submission deadline. Soldiers without a secret security clearance must provide a memorandum signed by the Division Security Officer stating a secret security investigation has been received and initiated by Defense Security Service. If interested in applying for OCS, provide original and three copies of completed application packet to our office by Nov. 18. An OCS information packet can be picked up at Trailer #14, Room 4. For more information, call Nan Lucero at 655-4511 or Corinne Queja at 655-1845.

EFMP Summer Pool Parties – Exceptional Family Member Program families from all services are invited to attend a free summer fun program designed to meet their special needs. Army Community Service EFMP will be hosting an afternoon of fun at the AMR pool from 1 to 5 p.m. July 16, and at Schofield Barracks pool from noon to 4 p.m. Aug. 14. Hot dogs, salads, ice

cream, shaved ice, pinatas and much more will be available. EFMP enrollment and advanced registration is required. Reservations must be made through your service's EFMP coordinator by July 12 for the AMR party, and Aug. 9 for the Schofield Barracks party. Army EFMP families must call 655-2303 or 655-2324 for reservations. For more information, call the Army EFMP manager at 655-2303.

History Course Waiver – A course waiver request for Modern History of Hawaii was approved at the Military Impacted Principals' meeting recently. The Hawaii Department of Education now allows high school principals to waive the Hawaii History Course requirement. Therefore, military students coming from any part of the world can take other necessary courses in regards to a history course.

OIF/OEF apparel and memorabilia – AAFES-Schofield Barracks Main Exchange is now offering official OIF and OEF apparel and memorabilia of the 25th Infantry Division (Light). Selection includes T-shirts, hats, stickers, flags, pins, yellow ribbon car magnets, mouse pads, playing cards and more. Support our men and women of the 25th ID (L) and Schofield Barracks and shop the Schofield Main Exchange. It is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, call 622-1773.

Free Basic Skills Course – Brush up on math and reading, get ready for college and improve GT scores with a free basic skills course offered by the 9th RSC at Fort Shafter Flats. Courses are 60 hours each. They will be held Aug. 12 to Sept. 30, and Oct. 21 to Dec. 13. All classes are held 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 105, Building 1554, Fort Shafter Flats. For more information, call 438-1600 Ext. 3293; or e-mail education@9rsc.army.mil.

Protestant Women of the Chapel – The AMR Chapel Protestant Women of the Chapel PWOC meets each Tuesday at AMR Chapel from 9 to 11 a.m. There is fellowship, prayer, music and Bible study. Child care is free for those attending. Call ahead for a child care reservation. Children must be registered for the Chapel STACC Site and that registration is free.

Family Night at AMR Chapel – Is held every Tuesday evening, beginning with a potluck at 5:30 p.m. and then at 6 p.m. breaks into youth group, Bible study for adults and children grades K-6 and Gospel Men's and Women's Fellowship. The evening ends at 7:30 p.m. There is free child care for ages 9 months - 4 years. Call ahead for a child care reservation: Elsa or Teresa at 833-8175, or Kathy at 839-4319. Children must be registered for the Chapel STACC Site, registration is free.

Special Forces Recruiting – Special Forces is looking for professional enlisted and officer volunteers. Enlisted Soldiers E-4 through E-7 with a GT score of 100 or higher, or commissioned officers in year group 2001 through 2002 can apply for Special Forces training. Are you up to the challenge of a lifetime? If so, you can be trained as a member of an A-Team. If you are a person who can accomplish the mission when others can't or won't, then Special Forces is for you. The time to act is now. Volunteer now and become one of America's most elite Soldiers. For more information, call 624-1035/1083.

Military Council of Catholic Women – MCCW meets each Thursday at AMR Chapel from 9 to 11:30 a.m. It begins with Mass and continues with fellowship and Bible study. Child care is free for those attending. Call Elsa for a child care reservation at 833-8175. Children must be registered for the Chapel STACC Site which is free.

25th ID (L) Soldier one of six service members honored by NAACP

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – A 25th Infantry Division (Light) Soldier was among six military personnel and two Defense Department civilian employees honored June 10 with the NAACP's Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award in recognition of their contributions to military equal opportunity policies and programs.

Called a highly motivated, professional Soldier and community activist, Sgt. 1st Class Lamont Christian, an equal opportunity advisor with the 25th ID (L), was cited for working "tirelessly to eliminate racial prejudice and to remove barriers based on race, color, gender, national origin and religion for military and civilian members alike."

Christian served as a member of the National Major Gang Task Force and the Hawaii State Law Enforcement Gang Task Force. "Additionally, the volunteers worked during off-duty hours taking the message of equal opportunity to the local Hawaiian community by partnering with high schools and the Hawaii State National Guard Youth Challenge, an at-risk youth camp," according to the award citation.

John J. Johnson, programs department chief for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, presented Roy Wilkins plaques to honorees during a ceremony prior to the NAACP's 29th Annual Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, Va. The recipients are from the Army, Navy, Marine

Corps, Air Force, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Coast Guard and 4th Estate Defense Agencies.

Johnson said the recipients were selected for the honor during a yearlong search by the military service departments to identify people who have done exceptional work in the area of equal opportunity, affirmative action and other outreach civil rights work.

Roslyn Brock, vice chairwoman of the NAACP's national board of directors at the organization's Baltimore headquarters, read a roll call of award recipients and their accomplishments as their images were flashed on large screens in the hotel's ballroom.

Also receiving Roy Wilkins plaques were: Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kedrick M. Bellamy, a maritime readiness officer at the Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia; Air

Force Maj. Kimberly Scott, a C-17A Globemaster III pilot with the 728th Airlift Squadron, 446th Military Airlift Wing, McChord Air Force Base, Wash.; Army National Guard Sgt. Maj. Gary E. Robinson Sr., a retiring senior enlisted adviser to the Joint Staff; Air National Guard Master Sgt. Delbert Williams, first sergeant of the 128th Air Refueling Wing at the Wisconsin Air National Guard headquarters in Milwaukee; Coast Guard Lt. Tyrone Jones, executive officer of Maritime Safety Security Team 91103 in Los Angeles; Craig F. Reed, director of the health and fitness division of Marine Corps Community Services at Camp Lejeune, N.C.; and Eddie Cooper, 4th Estate Defense Agencies.

The ceremony was highlighted with a special Wilkins award to Robert G. Cook, in recognition of many years of outstanding contri-

butions as chief of Air Force equal opportunity policy.

Roy Wilkins led the NAACP for 22 years, using legislation and the court system as weapons to fight for equality and constitutional justice. Among his most ardent causes were anti-lynching laws, fair housing laws, equal opportunity employment and integration.

The Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award was instituted in 1975 in recognition of the distinguished service of Roy Wilkins, who established the NAACP Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Department in 1969.

NAACP officials said Wilkins recognized that the same strides that were being in civil and human rights for African-Americans in the civilian populace must also encompass those who serve in the military.

Scouts put ‘eyes on’

Sgt. Jeremy A. Clawson
105th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – It didn’t take long for the scout team to scale the steep jagged rock face and establish its over watch position. Heat rose from the rocks on the small plateau that served as the perch, yet the team remained focused on the task -- keeping “eyes on” the objective.

The scout platoon from HHC, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, provided over-watch as A. Co. infantrymen created a cordon around a village near Mizan in central Afghanistan in conjunction with Operation Blue Candle, held recently.

Each Soldier in the scout platoon has a specific mission when providing over-watch for an infantry company. This mission as Soldiers on the ground began to search for contra-band as part of a larger stabilization effort in which coalition members are engaged throughout Afghanistan, the scout platoon observed their move-ments, as well as potential threats, from high on top the ridge.

The radio telephone operator listened to chatter over the SINGAR handset. The sniper scout manning the 50 caliber rifle placed the cross hairs of his scope on the distant ridgeline, where two possible Anti-Coalition Militants squatted in a sad-dle. The platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Gerard Normand, scanned the village compound in the valley below through his M4 scope, voicing his observations.

“We’re usually the first ones in and the last ones out, that way we can over watch the infill of the company,” said Normand, adding that the scouts “Provide over-watch the whole time.” Once the main effort is done, “they take off in Blackhawks. Then we get picked up. That way we can provide over watch for the extraction. When we extract, we have the Apaches pro-

viding over-watch for us.” Scouts report anything remotely unusual to the elements on the ground, giving them as much infor-mation as possible. Normand said they are the “early warning of funny stuff, while the platoons do what they gotta do in the town.” For leaders on the ground this flow of data is criti-cal.

Scouts give the essential early warning that only a birds-eye view can achieve. Early warning is critical when seconds count, but the scouts can do more than just warn of impending danger. They can also lay down heavy fire power if needed.

“We have one M107 50 caliber sniper rifle. We have a M24 – seven point six two, sniper rifle. We have an M14 that’s been converted into a sniper rifle, about five scoped M4’s and the 203,” he said, adding that if they needed to, they could rain lead down when called on. “So, basically from here we can range the whole valley, especially with the 50 cal. – we can get over a click easy.”

Yet, with all that firepower, Normand is quick to acknowledge their greatest asset doesn’t need ammunition.

“The biggest weapon out of all we have is what he has right there,” he said, pointing to his RTO. “The radio, it’s what we call the Apaches on. They drop a little bit more stuff than we do,” emphasizing the value of the Apaches.

According to Normand, the scouts like what they do.

“It’s a good time,” he said. “It’s a little hot and the hills are steep, but it earns the paycheck. It’s a good job.”

Scouts from HHC, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt. move through a dry river bed while making their way to a higher vantage point.

Sgt. Jeremy A. Clawson



Sgt. Jeremy A. Clawson

Scouts from HHC, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt. provide over-watch for other Soldiers from the bat-talion conducts a cordon and search in a village below.



21 cannon salute for former president

Sgt. Juan J. Diazfuentes, Spc. Henry Moran, Pvt. 2 Adrian Rivera and Pfc. Ariel Valequez fire 21 volleys in 21 minutes in tribute to the late former President Ronald Reagan at Sills Field on Schofield Barracks June 11.

Sharee Moore



84th Eng. Bn. ‘digs in’ for long haul in Iraq

By Capt. Melissa Pulliam
84th ECB (H)

BAGHDAD, Iraq – After five months in Iraq, the Equipment Platoon of HSC, 84th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy) has accomplished countless arduous projects in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

U.S. and Coalition Forces have begun “digging in for the long haul” as sustainment and rebuilding operations have become the primary focus of the engineer mission.

The platoon has supported life support capabilities of the Baghdad Central Correctional Facility at Abu Ghraib.

Working closely with EOD, Equipment Platoon Soldiers have built berms for the disposal of Saddam Hussein’s arsenal of rockets, mortars and other munitions.

At the battalion’s new base of operations in Balad, building barriers and improving the quality of life for almost 15,000 Soldiers has proved invaluable to the fight. The platoon’s versatility and engineering skills have made Equipment Platoon very popular with Coalition Forces.

With four forward operating bases located within the Abu Ghraib prison, the facil-

ity’s demand for water is enormous. Recently, Equipment Platoon was tasked with excavating a 525,000-gallon water retention pond. With two hydraulic excavators, the work took three days – four days less than anticipated.

In that time, Soldiers like Spcs. Brock Bollivar, Justin Lumm, and Solomon Sam earned valuable “stick time” They proved their skills and ingenuity on the project site by digging out the pond from the middle of the water – ensuring that the pond met the design specifications set by the 372nd Facility Engineer Team.

Their hard work provided the prison with the capability of maintaining its own water supply in the event that city water supplies ran out. This new water retention pond limits the number of risky convoys that soldiers may need to make in future “water runs.”

In addition to maintaining sufficient facilities for Iraq’s prison system, keeping weapons out of insurgent’s hands has become equally important. To accomplish this task, the battalion has begun construction of Captured Enemy Ammunition Depot Buckmaster near Tikrit, Iraq.

With a hydraulic excavator and a D9 bulldozer,



Sp. Brock Bollivar works the John Deere 330LCR Hydraulic Excavator in expanding the Abu Ghraib prison’s water retention system.

Equipment Platoon Soldiers Sgt. Eric Espenlaub and Pfc. Dennis Christensen have begun construction of 270 berms used in storing Iraqi munitions for disposal. Again, they proved their ingenuity by showing their National Guard counterparts how to increase production of the berms using the right equipment from one berm constructed every two days to two berms a day. These new depots will prevent these weapons from being used on American Soldiers.

Within Logistical Support Area Anaconda, work continues to improve the survivability and quality of life on post. Transforming the LSA’s burn pit into a full-fledged landfill has made a big difference in the quality of air and the general health and welfare of Soldiers living

around the airfield.

Spearheaded by Sgt. Jared McDonough, the platoon has spent the last few months disposing of almost a year’s worth of trash and has established a well-regulated dump. The platoon has also supported construction of a new Army Materials Command center which will help up-armor more vehicles for convoy operations.

Elsewhere on post, Staff Sgt. Cherilyn Lecraft has

begun supporting Co. B 84th ECB (H) with material for barriers around several aviation units that will protect Kiowa and Apache Helicopters from rocket attacks.

So far, the deployment has proved to be a rewarding experience for the platoon. One of the benefits of being an Army engineer is directly supporting other Army units and knowing that the platoon’s work is greatly appreciated.

In a war where the enemy is often unseen, Equipment Platoon has been able to see the physical impact of their work in the fight against terrorism. Currently, the Dump Section has moved roughly 31,200 tons of construction materials.

The platoon has traveled almost 5,000 miles to various project sites and the Asphalt and Concrete Section has just begun placing concrete for buildings and taxiways.



The Dump Section works hard at removing debris and rubble from the Abu Ghraib Prison. Meanwhile, an Iraqi man looks on with his donkey cart to take scraps from the pile.

Memorial service held for fallen Soldier



By Sharee Moore
Assistant Editor

The sanctuary inside the Post Chapel on Schofield Barracks was filled with friends, family and peers who came to bid farewell to Cpl. David Fraise in a home-going service June 10.

Staff Sgt. Kevin Henderson read Genesis 50: 19 – 21 from the Bible. It was Fraise’s favorite scripture, which he had written in his last letter home.

Cpt. David Hudson, rear detachment commander of 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry read a letter written to Fraise’s infant daughter Jireah, from Cpt. Pete Farrell, commander of the Cacti.

Farrell wrote, “I am sure you have spent countless nights wondering who he was and how he died. I will tell you he was a good man, a brave man, an infantryman, that died tragically fighting alongside some other great infantrymen. Men of character, men of 2nd Platoon Alpha Company.

“Men that were willing to sacrifice themselves to be a part of something greater than themselves and would have done anything to save your father,” read Hudson.

“He was friendly and decent, a good husband and proud father,” said Staff Sgt. Seamus Allen. “He always chose the hard right over the easy wrong.”

Allen concluded his remarks by saying, “I’m happy to have known you for a short time than not to have known you at all.”

Two others were wounded in the explosion that killed Fraise in Kandahar, Afghanistan June 7. Fraise, 24, of New Orleans, La., also leaves behind a wife, Jenaiece.

Fraise’s death is the second for the 25th Infantry Division (Light) in Afghanistan since it deployed about 4,500 Soldiers there in March.

Three Soldiers receive Purple Hearts

By Spc. Len Cutler
Staff writer

Three Hawaii-based Soldiers received Purple Hearts Tuesday for wounds they received in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Pfc. David J. Holmes, of the 25th Transportation Company, and Spc. Anthony W. Sullivan, and Sgt. Andrew J. Fix, both of 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, received their medals from Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell, commander of U.S. Army Pacific, during a ceremony at Schofield Barracks.

“They have looked the enemy in the eye, they have not blinked. They fought valiantly and they gave their blood and their flesh to protect others. Men, we are extremely proud of you, and we are honored to serve with you,” Campbell said. “Ladies and gentlemen, and the people of the United States, look no further – for here, right here, are your heroes.”

The 300 or so Soldiers and civilians in attendance, flanked by reporters and cameramen, stood to give the three a standing ovation, showing their support and gratitude.

Sullivan, who was wounded during a firefight in Rihad, located southwest of Kirkuk, Iraq. He said that although he’s grateful and honored by the recognition, it comes as a mixed blessing.

“It’s not the award I would have chosen for myself,” Sullivan said. It’s an honor, but I’d rather be back with my unit.”

Sullivan was working as a turret gunner during an escort mission when a group of insurgents ambushed the Soldiers. Sullivan had engaged several of them with his rifle when he was shot in the face. Luckily, the medical



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

Lt. Gen. James Campbell, commander of USARPAC, pins a Purple Heart on Pfc. David J. Holmes, 25th Trans. Co., Tuesday at Schofield Barracks. Spc. Anthony W. Sullivan (center), and Sgt. Andrew J. Fix (right), both of 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., also received Purple Hearts.

treatment has been successful, and Sullivan continues to mend.

Fix, like Sullivan, was in Iraq with 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., and was wounded when his unit came under attack while providing security for a city council meeting in Hawija, Iraq. Protestors, angry about the meeting, began attacking the Soldiers with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades.

Fix was shot in the left foot during the melee. He was evacuated to Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He is currently undergoing physical therapy, and expects to make a full recovery.

Holmes was in Iraq with the 25th Transportation Company, 45th Corps Support Group, when his truck was hit by an improvised explosive device. Holmes suffered a broken leg, and shrapnel from the explosion left several large wounds in his legs. The driver of the vehicle, Sgt. Christopher McIntosh, was also injured. The two were sent to Tripler Army Medical Center for recovery. McIntosh remains at Tripler, where he is reportedly making good progress.

Campbell said he has met several young men like Holmes, Fix, and Sullivan. Men wounded, sometimes permanently crippled or disfigured. Yet to a man, he said, each remains proud of their sacrifice and their commitment to their country. It’s a sentiment Sullivan knows well.

“I have no regrets,” he said. “I already put in my request to return to Iraq.”

With total disregard for their own personal safety, they answered the call, and paid in blood, in limb, and in tears, to give people who have only known tyranny and despair in their lives a chance to be free.

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Sgt. Jeremy A. Clawson

Soldiers from 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt. move through a valley during Operation Blue Candle.

Operation Blue Candle provides light at the end of tunnel

Sgt. Jeremy A. Clawson
105th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment recently conducted combat and presence patrols, air assault operations, cordon and searches in the Mizan district of Afghanistan.

During the seven days of Operation Blue Candle, humanitarian aid was also given to citizens of numerous communities within the operational area.

Because of the “Cacti Battalion,” as the 2-35 are known, Mizan now has a doctor, a school and a light at the end of the tunnel.

Cacti and its subordinate elements accomplished two things. “We pushed the enemy out and reinforced the local government,” said Capt. Peter Farrell, Co. A 2-35 Infantry commander.

The Mizan District, Cacti’s area of operation, is a mountainous region in south central Afghanistan. Latest intelligence indicated that Anti-Coalition Militia (ACM), including

Taliban, Al Qaeda and resistance fighters, had been harassing the populace there.

“The primary mission at battalion level was to disrupt ACM forces,” said Farrell. “Alpha Company’s role was the air assault arm, to cordon and search wherever we had intelligence that there were ACM forces operating.”

According to Farrell, Mizan and the surrounding villages have been a safe haven for Taliban and enemy resistance, but the efforts of the nearly 400 Cacti Soldiers have squeezed their capabilities.

“Mizan is a remote district. It’s kind of in the middle of nowhere. It’s been a sanctuary. By denying that to the Anti-Coalition Militia forces, it causes them to fracture into splinter cells. It doesn’t give them the support they need to operate.”

Blue Candle had virtually no direct engagement with the ACM yet it did stymie their movement.

“We stopped fourteen days of violence, of fighting. There has been no fighting in that region since Blue

Candle,” said Farrell. “The doctor moved back so now they have some limited form of health care. The school reopened in that district. People obviously felt safe and happy while we were there but I think it will have a lasting effect as we continue to return in Mizan.”

In relation to the larger national efforts, Operation Blue Candle gives the fledgling local governments a chance to get their feet on the ground as the infrastructure improves.

“If you look at the next scale up that’s one more piece that’s starting to fit into reconstruction, getting a government going. We push those guys (Taliban) farther out,” said Farrell. “(The Taliban) influence is limited and the government’s influence grows. ‘Government,’ not being the U.S. government but the Afghan government in whatever form they choose.”

Cacti and the units supporting them were able to capture numerous weapons during Blue Candle, which, incidentally, is the name of a species of cactus.

2nd BCT to support thousands of Iraqi children in Operation Crayon

Spc. Sean Kimmons
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – The education of children is pivotal to the future of Iraq. This is why the Coalition has focused so much on school improvements and the welfare of students during its rebuilding of this country.

Second Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Light) has involved itself frequently with these educational concerns since they assumed Coalition presence of the Kirkuk area in February.

One of the most recent 2nd BCT projects has been the adoption of Operation Crayon, which is being coordinating through the 2nd BCT Unit Ministry Team. Operation Crayon is a outreach project that has already been implemented in other parts of Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kosovo, in order to assist deployed Soldiers whose mission is to help children in need.

“It’s one part of a huge effort for America to reach out across the world,” Chaplain (Maj.) Jonathan Etterbeek, 2nd BCT Chaplain, said about the Operation Crayon project on Kirkuk Air Base.

The purpose of Operation Crayon is to seek school supplies so that American troops can distribute them to needy children in the countries where they are deployed. It offers an approach for posts, units, and especially family members to support their troops as they promote goodwill in war torn countries.

Currently on base, 2nd



Spc. Sean Kimmons

Spc. Christopher Miklas, a 2nd BCT I.O. Personnel Security Detachment member, sorts through school supplies donated to Operation Crayon June 13.

BCT Soldiers and Airmen are volunteering their time in this joint operation to stuff bags of school supplies that be given to every student in the Kirkuk area.

“Our goal is to provide every child in our AO [area of responsibility] with a school supplies bag by September,” said Chief Warrant Officer Randall Reynolds, an officer with the 2nd BCT Information Operations cell, who has volunteered his time toward Operation Crayon.

There are more than 300 schools and 30,000 students inside 2nd BCT’s AO. So far, the Chaplain’s office has received about 270 packages and has filled 500 bags of school supplies.

“We still have a long way to go,” said Staff Sgt. Warren Cotton, Chaplain Etterbeek’s assistant. “If anyone wants to be part of the team here as far as helping the Soldiers and being a part of the rebuilding process in Kirkuk -- you don’t have to send a

whole lot, any small donation is fine.

“It’s just a way of giving back and showing your support to the troops and the mission we have over here,” Cotton added.

The Operation Crayon staff and its volunteers on Kirkuk Air Base are extending an invitation to those who would like to help bring smiles to the faces of needy children in Iraq.

Items that are needed to help support this operation are: writing paper, construction paper, pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil erasers, pens, markers, chalk, chalk board erasers, glue, round-ed-end scissors, coloring books, soccer balls and jump ropes, band-aids, and of course crayons (preferably in 24 packs).

Mail donations to:
Operation Crayon
Jonathan Etterbeek
HHC, 2nd BCT, 25th ID
APO AE 09347-9998

Are you an aspiring writer?

Submit your story for consideration to



Email your story to the editor with your name and phone number to
editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com



View of Honolulu Forest Watershed Reserve as seen from summit of the Kalawahine Trail. To the right is the area where the culminating battle that united all islands under King Kamehameha's rule took place.



Taking the Mt. Tantalus challenge

By Sharee Moore
Assistant Editor
Photos By
Sgt. 1st Class Henry Moore Jr.

Sign up for a hike and rediscover the outdoors on a tour led by the Outdoor Adventure Center on Pearl Harbor. Five bucks will get you a ride to and from the start point, a nifty map and a knowledgeable tour guide.

June's hike took us to the summits of Kalawahine and Pauoa Flat Trails. When we arrived at the Kalawahine start point, partially obstructed views of the airport, Pearl Harbor and the reef runway, were only a taste of what we would see once we reached the summit.

Coffee and cinnamon trees, guava and wild strawberries were in abundance. Hunters

also use these trails when on wild pig hunts, so thoughts of a picnic under the canopy of trees danced through my mind.

We hiked almost six miles of trails, so if you plan to participate on a guided tour, allow at least five hours to get back to Pearl Harbor. Wear old sneakers or boots; bring plenty of bug spray, water and snacks. And of course, don't forget the camera. When parking, don't leave valuables in your car because break-ins are common occurrences.

On this hike, you will see large fern crusted rocks, bamboo forests, panoramic views of Diamond Head, Waikiki, Honolulu and even a glimpse of the Pali lookout point. The sounds of birds playing musical tag almost compensate for the mud you'll have to tromp through on most of the Kalawahine trail. Almost.

The intensity of this hike varies. You can walk faster for a more intense thigh burn, or stroll while consulting a reference guide about Oahu's flora and trees. There are plenty of hills, but also a fair share of flattened trails, which are the result of the Mt. Tantalus Puu Ohia volcano flows filling in the valley.

Our tour guide, AJ Jaeger an outdoor recreation programmer firmly believes in the recreation center's slogan "Come In to Get Out."

"These programs are for military families, so you're not sitting and moping when your father, son, husband or boyfriend is out to sea," said Jaeger. "Every week there is another activity such as snorkeling, outrigger canoe rides, paddling, hikes, kayaking and even a sail plane ride."

Although Jaeger directed her comments toward the Navy since the Outdoor Recreation Center is located on Pearl Harbor, all Morale Welfare and Recreation programs across the armed forces are open to all military and their families.



A group from Pearl Harbor's MWR Outdoor Adventure program hike up a path on the Pauoa Flats trail. All military and their families can participate in MWR activities.

Directions to Bloch Arena on Pearl Harbor:
H1-East to Pearl Harbor exit
Turn right at front gate
Take next right into Bloch Arena parking lot

Outdoor Adventure Center is building 161

Directions to Kalawahine Trail:

Proceed mauka on Round Top Drive to parking lot on opposite side of the road next to Moleka Trail (look for a brown, four mile marker sign on right).

Trail intersects at the Puu Ohia Trail (from left side) and again at the Pauoa Flats Trail (from right side).

(Editor's Note: Visit the Outdoor Adventure Center on the Web at www.greatlifehawaii.com/activity/index.asp or call 473-1198. It is recommended to take the guided tour, or at least picking up a map, before tackling Mt. Tantalus).



Sharee Moore

The Pauoa Flats trail winds through a bamboo forest on the way to the summit.



A tree twists over the path on the Kalawahine Trail.



View of Diamond Head and Waikiki as seen from the summit of the Pauoa Flats trail.

4th of July Spectacular – Don't miss this year's 4th of July Spectacular on Sills Field on Schofield Barracks. Beginning at 9 a.m. is the 5k run and at 10 a.m. is the children's 1 mile fun run. The games, rides, crafts, military car show and the food booths open at 10 a.m. Enjoy entertainment beginning at 11 a.m. on the Oceanic Stage from Opihi Pickers, Kaala Boys, Da Braddahs, Tani Lynn and Jordon Segundo. Beginning at 4 p.m. is the flag retreat and the 25th ID (L) Band mini concert. The main entertainment begins on the main stage with Tino and the Rhythm Klub at 4:30 p.m. and Sandi Patty at 5:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Fireworks with music from the 25ID (L) Band will begin at 8:30 p.m. Don't miss the opportunity to win a band new Chevy S-10 pickup from JN Chevrolet. Visit their booth to enter. This event is open to the public, admission is free and no pets are allowed. Log on to www.mwrarmyhawaii.com for more information.

Upcoming Craft Classes – The following classes are offered at the Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center: EZ Ceramics on June 19, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or June 23, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cost is \$10 for 3 hours of learning basic mold pouring. Frame a Hawaiian Quilt Design is offered on June 24, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Cost is \$40 and includes instruction, quilt pattern and materials. The Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Centers have several other classes available. For information call 438-1071 or 655-4202.

Flag Football Clinic – Gain an understanding of flag football – Skilled players can also work on their techniques before the start of the season at the next clinic. Clinic is open to youth born in the year 1988-1998. Register from July 13 - August 10 at your nearest Army Youth Center. The cost is \$12 and includes a T-shirt. The clinic date is August 28, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bennett Youth Center Field on Schofield Barracks. Call Aliamanu 833-5393, Schofield Barracks 655-6465 or Fort Shafter 438-9336.

Exceptional Family Member Information – Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Support Group for parents and children is held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Aliamanu Chapel and the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. at Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks. EFMP Family Summer Pool Parties are scheduled for July 16, 1 - 5 p.m. at Aliamanu Pool and August 14, 12 - 4 p.m. at Schofield Barracks pool. EFMP Enrollment is required and reservations are mandatory by calling 655-2303. Free American Sign Language Classes are also offered on Monday and Wednesday until July 26. Call 655-2303 for more information about any of the EFMP programs or classes.

Spouse's Night Out – This free adults-only program at Army Community Service on Schofield Barracks is designed to get spouses out of the house every Thursday night from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. to have some fun! On June 24, participate

in Dentistry in the New Millennium, Game Night, Meet Greet and Compete with other spouses, Married Men Making a Difference and Quilting. On July 1, participate in Line Dancing, Natural Health and Wellness, Learn to use a Web Camera and Quilting. MWR Blue Star Card holders will receive free child care from 6 - 9 p.m. by reservation only at Peterson Child Care Center. Call 655-3929 by noon of the Tuesday prior to each Thursday event to make child care reservations. Child care reservations can be made two weeks in advance. Pre-Registration for classes is required, call 655-2736.

Summer Reading Program – The Sgt. Yano Library on Schofield Barracks, the Fort Shafter Library and Aliamanu Library have a fun filled Summer Reading program for June. Don't miss Ronald McDonald at Fort Shafter on June 22, Sgt. Yano Library on June 23 and Aliamanu on June 24 at 3 p.m. Bungie the Clown will be entertaining on June 29 at Fort Shafter, June 30 at Sgt. Yano and July 1 at Aliamanu at 3 p.m. And Barnyard Animals visit Fort Shafter on July 6, Sgt. Yano Library on July 7 and Aliamanu Library July 8, at 3 p.m. For information call your nearest library.

4th of July Tent Spaces – 20x20 tent spaces are available by permit only along Trimble Road for \$60.00. Grills and canopies are only allowed in tent spaces. Ground level or low back beach chairs only. No sparklers or firecrackers. No pets allowed. Call 655-0002

to reserve yours today.

Music Classes – A variety of music classes are offered at Bennett Youth Center on Schofield Barracks and at the Aliamanu Youth Center. Participate in Piano, Vocal Training, Flute, Recorder, Guitar, and Ukulele. Certain classes have minimum age requirements. Call Schofield Barracks at 655-6461 or Aliamanu at 833-4932 for more information or to schedule an appointment. Piano Lessons are also offered at the Fort Shafter Youth Center, Call 438-1487.

4th of July 5K and Fun Run Registration – Enter into the annual 4th of July Runs. Entry forms are available at all Army fitness centers and can also be downloaded on-line at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com. Participants for race's can hand in forms and fees to the Schofield Barracks Health and Fitness Center or the Fort Shafter ITR office. The 5K cost if registering by between June 15 - 25 cost is \$20 with T-shirt/\$10 without T-shirt. Entry forms on race day, beginning at 7 a.m. will be \$25 with T-shirt/\$12 without T-shirt. The 5K run begins at 9 a.m. on Sills Field on Schofield Barracks. Deadline for the children's 1 mile fun run registration is June 25 if ordering a T-shirt. T-shirts can be purchased by June 25 for \$8. Registration is free. Late registration on race day will begin at 9 a.m. The fun run begins at 10 a.m. on Sills Field on Schofield Barracks. All fun run finishers will receive a ribbon. For more information call Vera Ross, 655-8789.

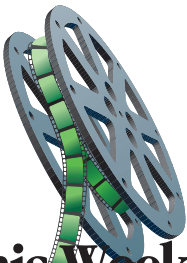
PBA Merchandise on

Sale – Authentic Professional Bowler's Merchandise is now on sale at the Schofield Barracks Bowling Center. Fifty percent off regular prices of bowling bags, shoes, jackets, shirts and more. Limited supply available. Call 655-5301.

Summer Craft Sale – Find a wide selection of pottery, woodcrafts, jewelry, stained glass, Hawaiian quilts, ceramics and more on June 24 and 25 from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and June 26 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Fort Shafter Arts and Crafts Center. The center is located in Building 339, behind the Thrift Shop on Fort Shafter. Call 438-1071 for information.

Commissary Dash N' Grab – Stop by the Schofield Barracks Commissary, Schofield Barracks Army Community Service or Tropics, Building 589 on Schofield Barracks to enter for a chance to win the Commissary Dash N' Grab that will be held on June 24 at 7:15 a.m. Finalists will be notified. MWR Blue Star Card Members are automatically entered to win. Open to Active Duty families and spouses. This event will be held quarterly. Event is sponsored by DECA and MWR. Call 438-0117 for information.

Tropics Care Packaging – You bring the goodies, we provide the packing materials on June 20, 9 a.m. - noon at the Tropics, Building 589 on Schofield Barracks. We do not pay for mailing or deliver to the post office. Call 655-0002 for information.



This Week at the MOVIES

SGT SMITH THEATER

TODAY	Kill Bill Vol. 2 (R) 7p.m.
SATURDAY JUNE 19th	Ella Enchanted (PG) 2p.m.
SATURDAY JUNE 19th	Kill Bill Vol. 2 (R) 7p.m.
SUNDAY JUNE 20th	Ella Enchanted (PG) 2p.m.
SUNDAY JUNE 20th	Envy (PG-13) 7p.m.
MONDAY JUNE 21st	Closed
TUESDAY JUNE 22nd	Closed
WEDNESDAY JUNE 23rd	Closed
THURSDAY JUNE 24th	Closed
HICKAM MEMORIAL THEATER	
TODAY	Man on Fire (R) 7p.m.
SATURDAY JUNE 19th	Man on Fire (R) 7p.m.
SUNDAY JUNE 20th	Going on 30 (PG-13) 7p.m.
MONDAY JUNE 21st	Closed
TUESDAY JUNE 22nd	Closed
WEDNESDAY JUNE 23rd	Going on 30 (PG-13) 7p.m.
THURSDAY JUNE 24th	Laws of Attraction (PG-13) 7p.m.



HACN TV2 Schedule

Morning	Afternoon	Safety Day	Evening	Overnight
6:00 Sign on	12:00 Families in Transition	3:00 Shamu TV Great Apes		10:00 The History of Army AVN
6:30 Cardio Kickboxing	12:22 OIF Photo Montage 3	3:30 Shamu Reptiles		10:44 OEF Deployment Photo Montage
7:00 Fit for Life	12:30 Deployment Brief by JAG	4:00 Army News Watch		11:00 Salsa Aloha
7:30 Performance Nutrition	12:44 OEF Deployment Report	5:00 NFL – 100 Greatest Tackles		12:00 NFL
8:00 Honor to Serve	12:46 Schofield Barracks Commissary Dash N Grab		6:00 Community Focus	
9:00 Army Newswatch	1:00 OIF Deployment Ceremony		6:20 MWR Update	2:00 OIF Deployment Ceremony
9:30 Community Focus	1:23 OIF Deployment Luau		6:30 Families in Transition	2:24 OIF Deployment Luau
9:50 MWR Update	1:37 OIF Photo Montage 4		7:00 OEF Deployment Ceremony	2:38 OIF Photo Montage 1
10:22 OIF Photo Montage 2	1:42 OEF Deployment Photo Montage		7:30 OEF Deployment Luau	2:41 OIF Photo Montage 5
10:30 Hurricane Safety Storm Alert	2:00 Gen. Schoomaker Interview		8:00 Helicopter Introduction	2:47 OEF Deployment Ceremony
11:00 Days of Remembrance	2:30 Jake Shimabukuro –		8:48 OIF Photo Montage 5	3:17 OEF Deployment Luau
11:46 Schofield Barracks Commissary Dash N Grab			9:00 ASAP Smoking Part 1	3:40 OEF Deployment report
			9:30 ASAP Smoking Park 2	3:41 OEF Deployment Photo Montage

Experienced chaplain helps Soldiers in Afghanistan

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly
CJTF-76 Public Affairs Office

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – For many Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division (Light), deploying to a combat zone was a first time experience.

One chaplain is using his experience in war to make the lives of Soldiers, and the people of Afghanistan better.

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Larry Adams-Thompson is the command chaplain for Combined Joint Task Force 76 in Afghanistan, and first started serving with the 25th ID (L) in 1968 ... but not as a chaplain.

“I was drafted into the Army in 1968 as an 11 Bravo Infantryman,” Adams-Thompson said.

Adams-Thompson served in the war in Vietnam, and was with the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment. It was in Vietnam where he decided to serve God.

“When I was in Vietnam I had one of those foxhole conversion experiences,” he said. “Our unit was one of two early units to go into Cambodia for the first time. We were doing a river security operation for, I think, the 1st Cavalry to come across with their mechanized unit, and basically we were attacked by our own artillery, and had several of our guys die that day. I thought for sure that I was going to be one of them.

“In a moment of desperation, as I lay atop my radio (man), because he’d been hit by some shrapnel, I promised God that if he stopped the artillery that I would serve him for the rest of my life, and it stopped instantaneously. There was no question in my mind what happened. That’s really what got things started. I had no idea that meant to be a pastor, much less to come back into the Army as a chaplain. That kind of evolved over a period of



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Larry Adams-Thompson visits the Gardez Provincial Reconstruction Team in Afghanistan.

years, but here I am.”

Adams-Thompson said the main thing he feels chaplains help Soldiers with in combat is dealing with death.

“In any combat zone, both from my own experience and seeing others, the challenges are dealing with one’s finality,” he said. “Especially when you’re young. I was 20 years old when I was drafted in Vietnam, and that’s roughly the age of folks that are here.

“You think you’re invincible, you certainly know your job, you’ve been trained for what you do, and nonetheless, when you see other folks killed in

action and your own life is threatened, that really changes your perspective on life,” he said. “So the role of a chaplain often times is about helping people process that. I think everything for people is on the surface when you’re in an environment like this; who you want to be, who you are, whether you live or die, your relationships ... everything is kind of on the surface. I see that not as much of a challenge, but as a focus for ministry for many of our chaplains here.”

Adams-Thompson added people are seeking him out

now more than when he was back at Schofield Barracks serving as the Division Chaplain.

“I think people are more ready and apt to talk to a chaplain in this environment than they are back home,” he said. “Just walking down the sidewalk from the first day I was here, I was amazed at people just outwardly, ‘Chaplain, how are you!’”

Soldiers are forced to deal with death and the threat of dying daily. For example, one 25th Infantry Division Soldier was killed when he and two other Soldiers had an impro-

vised explosive device detonate under their vehicle Monday. With death occurring regularly in Afghanistan, Adam-Thompson said Soldiers are bonding closer.

“We’ve had a number, just since we’ve been here, of people killed,” he said. “Not so much in the Division, but in our Joint Task Force ... (but death), it knits a unit together and brings people together in a time of tragedy.”

Aside from helping Soldiers deal with death, Adams-Thompson wants chaplains to reach out and help change the country of Afghanistan.

“One of the things that really stuck me when I was in Vietnam, was what a beautiful country it was,” he said. “I can vividly remember having thoughts of that as I walked around in the jungles and in villages and everywhere I went; but also realizing how sad it was that these people, kind of like Afghanistan, much like Afghanistan, had been in a series of wars over the years, and their country had not been allowed to prosper. At that time in my life, that wasn’t so important to me as it is now in this time in my life.

“When I got here, besides doing what we do as Chaplains to provide religious support to all the military personnel that are here, which is a big enough task in and of itself, I really felt like I wanted to do something and I wanted the chaplains here to do something that would have even a teeny impact on this country which I also see as being a very beautiful country that has been war torn for centuries,” he said. “Finding out what that was has been a matter of prayer, a lot of soul-searching and asking a lot of questions.”

Adams-Thompson said there are many options in helping the country.

“One, Maj. Gen. Olson is interested in the Division find-

ing an orphanage or a school or something, that we can sort of adopt and provide some support to while we’re here,” he said. “Certainly, the Task Force is going to see, I think, some fantastic impact on the country through the Provincial Reconstruction Teams, providing construction, providing security, the elections ... all those things are great success marks. But what about (chaplains) us?”

“Afghanistan is 80 percent or more an Islamic country,” he said. “The constitution, the government is an Islamic constitution and Islamic government. Clergy and clerics play an important role in the society here. Maybe even more so than they do in our (United States) society, in a Christian country.”

Adams-Thompson has met with Mullahs (religious leaders) in the past to discuss faith and how to help the people of Afghanistan.

Adams-Thompson feels meeting with Mullahs will have an impact throughout the country.

“I believe that we can have a potential impact on a lot of other things, kind of a ripple in a pond,” he said. “It’s had a positive impact. They kind of see us as Army Mullahs. I’m really excited about it.”

Adams-Thompson added he hopes to have a long-term working relationship with local Islamic leaders.

“I see us, hopefully, developing a long-term relationship,” he said. “Trust is built over time, not in a single meeting. It’s going to take a number of meetings.”

Adams-Thompson emphasized the main goal of chaplains overall in Afghanistan is to support service members.

“When all is settled, about 35 Religious Support Teams consisting of a chaplain and chaplain’s assistant will be set up throughout the country,” he said.

Wheeler Action Plan focus of School Town Hall meeting

By Joy Boisselle
Staff writer

Wheeler Middle School parents, community leaders, and a representative from the Department of Education met June 8 at Schofield Barracks for the second Wheeler Middle School Town Hall Meeting. Whereas last month, the focus was on fact-finding and information gathering, this month’s meeting focused on providing feedback to the group using a newly developed school Action Plan.

Leading the brief team was Lt. Col. Tom Webb, commander, Oahu Base Support Battalion. He said, “Last month, the information was more one way with you providing information to us. This month, we will give you a brief back of what happened when we took your information to an off-site conference held May 13 and 14.”

The off-site conference was a School Community Based Management meeting attended by parents, community representatives, students, school administrators and staff, teachers, the complex superintendent, and a representative from the Department of Education. The purpose of the conference was two-fold. First, the group tried to achieve a resolution to the conflicts evident from the first Town Hall Meeting. Second, and according to Webb, most impor-

tant, was to work together to effect positive change at WMS.

Following Webb was Grace Jacoby, mother of a Wheeler student and wife of Brig. Gen. Charles Jacoby, who explained to the group how the process worked and how the Action Plan was created.

“If the Action Plan is successful, we will have measurable indicators to know how we are doing. The most important indicators of success should be student achievement will increase and discipline problems will decrease,” Jacoby said.

Jacoby explained that the SCBM group developed four action plan goals with several supporting tasks outlined for each goal. The four goals were: to demonstrate a democratic, open communications and decision-making process between, within, and amongst all shareholders to re-establish trust, credibility, and relationships, to develop a shared vision with a focus on students, to consistently respond to discipline and supervision issues IAW Chap 19 and school rules and regulations, and to address issues regarding resources.

Supporting tasks under open communications include re-establishing the Open House, continuing Parent-Teacher Conferences, and defining and establishing an open door policy for administrators and teachers. Under shared vision, sub-committee members came up with

a wide variety of tasks including conducting an inventory of textbooks for age, quantity, and content, and placing qualified teachers in all positions.

The resourcing sub-committee highlighted areas needing attention in their supporting tasks. Their tasks include updating bathrooms and ensuring all supplies are available to students, installing new lockers, and ensuring each teacher provides parents with a course syllabus at the beginning of the school year.

An area that received much attention at last month’s meeting was discipline. The discipline sub-committee’s supporting tasks include in-school suspension, educating parents on how to report discipline and safety concerns, and implement a student character-building program.

Following the briefing, Webb called the action plan “a great product to work with” and then personally thanked Jacoby and the other members of the SCBM for their dedication and hard work for the students at the school. One downside to the meeting was that even though invited, the Wheeler Middle School Principal Diane Matsukawa and Vice Principal Brenda Chun were not able to attend the meeting and sent no representatives in their place.

Penny Ontai, wife of Hawaii

State Representative Guy Ontai, spoke to the parents.

“My husband is very concerned and we will be paying attention to what’s going on at this school. Military kids deserve what the civilian sector has and they deserve even more stability. We must make Wheeler a better institution for kids to attend,” she said.

Rep. Ontai is retired Army and served with the 84th Engineer Battalion.

Following Ontai was the Central District Rep, Laura Pea who stated, “We are very optimistic about positive change happening. We are dedicated to making progress.”

Vicki Olson, wife of Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commander of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and Combined Joint Task Force 76 in Afghanistan, spoke next and clearly articulated the community’s position concerning the Wheeler issues.

“While some progress is being made, the supervision of the Action Plan process at Wheeler needs to be above the Complex Area Superintendent level. Wheeler Middle has had long-standing unresolved issues. Communication needs to be a two way process at Wheeler Middle and parents have to be a part of the decision making process. Our children’s education is a critical quality of life issue and our parents are very willing to work hard for the betterment of all of our

schools. Ninety-four percent of the Wheeler Middle student body is made up of military family members, we are not going to go away, and we will remain engaged in moving this plan forward.”

Olson’s comments were met by applause and shouts of agreement from the attending parents. Colonel Dave McKenna, Commander, United States Army Hawaii concluded the meeting by telling the group, “Now, the school us owes something back. We need to know who has responsibility for tasks in the Action Plan and we must hold them accountable. We need parent and school feedback, and we need commitment. These are our kids and we must commit to them.”

Ontai offered words of encouragement to the group at the meeting’s close. She suggested getting the students involved in improvements through student government and the discipline process. She spoke of creating “pono” among the students. “Pono” is the Hawaiian term for having integrity and honor. Lastly, she told the group, “Because the military comes and goes, sometimes it is easy for the system to think that the problems will PCS.” With a smile she said, “We won’t be PCS’ing.”

The next Wheeler Town Hall Meeting will take place in September at a date and place to be announced.

Installation focuses on Soldier-friendly concept

Directorate of Public Works
News Release

In the fourth century B.C., the Greek orator Isocrates wrote, "Athens is a great place but I wouldn't want to live there. The challenge is to make our city a great place in which to live, work and play." Schofield Barracks is not Athens, but master planners at the Directorate of Public Works are attempting to address the same challenge that Isocrates astutely raised long ago.

"A year-and-a-half ago, when I looked at Schofield Barracks and where all of the facilities were, I immediately saw many land use and compatibility problems," said Ed Uchida, DPW master planner.

Uchida said he saw Soldiers experiencing a lack of a sense of order with significant separation between barracks, motor pools, and PT areas, compelling them to drive for a good part of the day.

"For a young E-1 without a vehicle, this can be a huge problem because he or she can bum rides all day long for only so long," Uchida said. "But we can't really blame our planning forefathers for this facilities separation."

The Army had horses in those days, Uchida explained, and they couldn't place the stables close to the barracks for obvious aromatic reasons. Later, however, vehicles replaced horses; but unfortunately, the stables simply became motorpools, accounting for today's barracks-motor pool separation, and possibly the term motor sta-



An artist's rendering shows the Soldier friendly concept with a PT area and parade field fronting barracks, buffered motor pools to the rear of the barracks, and training ranges beyond the motor pools.

bles.

Similarly, Uchida said, military families may experience some discomfort with family housing units bumped up against barracks and motor pools, with little or no green buffer space.

On the west end of Schofield Barracks, family housing units are adjacent to the live-fire maneuver ranges and beneath the aircraft approach into the Wheeler Army Air Field.

"Our live-fire maneuver ranges will see considerably more ground and aerial activity ...," Uchida warned. "Consequently, adjoining areas may be better suited for use as industrial areas and motor pools."

"The situation today is...we have unsightly

industrial activities and motor pools scattered throughout the installation's central core," he continued. "Obviously, this is not good land use."

"The key, is to critically re-look at where everything should go," Uchida said. "With RCI already planning the reconstruction of all of the Army's homes within 20 to 30 years, why not rebuild many of these homes elsewhere?"

In response, Uchida created innovative new land use bands placing industrial activities and warehouses next to the training ranges.

He envisions motor pools across the road from the training ranges so tactical vehicles can move directly from the training

range into the motor pools. This will help keep tactical vehicles, especially the Stryker vehicles, out of the installation's central core.

He sees barracks, unit operational facilities, dining facilities and PT areas all co-located so Soldiers can walk to and from all of these facilities. The whole concept is to allow Soldiers to live, work, do PT and play in the same area, virtually eliminating their need to drive.

If that happens, many existing parking lots can be turned into lush green space.

"Soldiers may not like to look out of their barracks windows and see the motor pools," Uchida said. "So, why not place a green space buffer with tall shade trees to visually

shield the motor pools, and develop this area into a welcome backyard recreation facility?"

This recreation area could easily become the Soldiers' featured entertainment area with barbecues during the evenings, picnics on weekends, and day-long weekend basketball and volleyball games.

"Young Soldiers need to burn off young energies ... sometimes all weekend long," Uchida said. "And, when you can sit under the coolness of shaded trees and cap the day with good friends, grill-cooked steaks, and a cool drink, it just doesn't get any better than that!"

"Commanders can also take solace that even if soldiers drink in the recreation area, there will be no driving because home is just a few steps away."

Uchida further sees the installation laced with landscaped linear parks to provide ample opportunities for walking, jogging, cycling, and other health-related

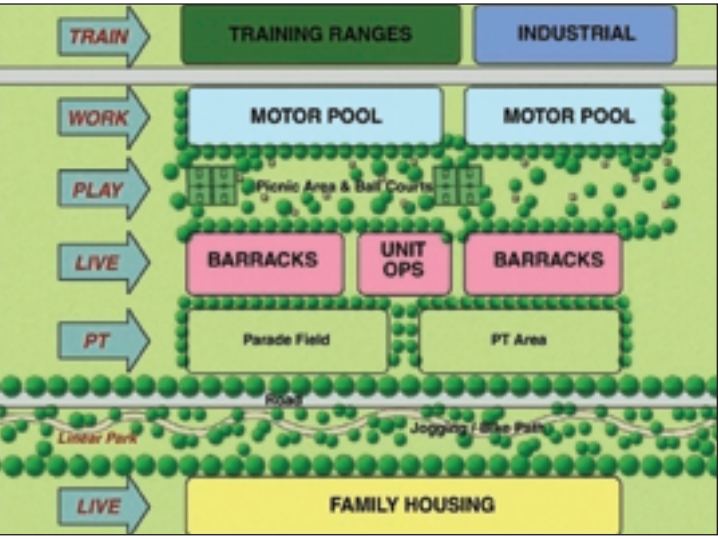
outdoor activities.

With shaded, meandering pedestrian and bike path networks and park benches he sees less reliance on the automobile for local trips and enhanced opportunities for informal social interaction. "We want leafy trees shading streets and sidewalks to create beautiful streetscapes reminiscent of old Hawaii."

Uchida concluded, "The whole Army is changing, and Transformation and RCI are only starters. Installations must also change to avoid becoming functionally obsolete. Change is indeed a friend and a vehicle to fix installation deficiencies".

"To change, we need to be proactive, visionary, and resourceful. And if we are committed to excellence, we can champion Soldier and family life quality. Change is essentially the way ahead," he added.

For more information, contact Mr. Ed Uchida, Directorate of Public Works, at 656-2682 ext. 1117.



Detailed image of the proposed Soldier friendly changes to Schofield Barracks.

Barracks Renewal Program upgrades Soldier living areas



Spc. Len Cutler

Construction at Quad K is one of several projects at Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field that will upgrade Soldiers' living areas.

By Terri Koyl
Directorate of Public Works

Behind the tall black fabric dust barriers around construction sites on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field, the Army's Whole Barracks Renewal Program is building new barracks and modernizing existing ones for unaccompanied enlisted personnel.

Old barracks lack suitable plumbing, lighting, and ventilation, not to mention privacy and comfort. The WBR Program will satisfy current Army standards, which strive to provide improved living conditions for Soldiers by separating administrative and operations facilities from the barracks.

Mike Kumabe, Directorate of Public Works general engineer, is the WBR Program Manager. This sizeable program is divided into phases, each phase comprised of renovations and construction. The program started in 1995 and will be completed around 2010.

There are several projects currently underway on Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Air Field. WBR projects are located at Quad F, the former Quad K area, and around the Wheeler Army Air Field Bowling Alley.

Two additional projects, one to modernize Quad C and the other to construct new facilities near the former Quad K started construction in 2004, with eight more projects to follow in the next four years, including barracks at Tripler Army Medical Center.

The dust barriers on Wheeler Army Air Field contain the construction of a 192 Soldier barracks, two company operations facilities and the renovation of historic building 102 for company operations facilities and battalion headquarters for most of the Aviation Brigade.

On Schofield Barracks, there is construction in the old Quad K area. This project demolished Quad K and is constructing a pair of 200 Soldier barracks, a Soldiers' community building, 12 company operations facilities and two battalion headquarters for the 45th Corps Support Group (FWD).

The modern facility will also have a 1,300 Soldier dining facility, a training facility, a telecommunications remote switching center, as well as a central cold and hot water plant which will produce chilled water for air conditioning and hot water more efficiently than before. Roads, parking, utilities, and landscaping are also part of the program.

Also on Schofield Barracks, historic Quad F is being modernized to house part of the Division Support Command. Although the outside of the quad is being made to look like it did when it was built with 1930s style windows, the inside of the quad buildings will be as modern as any of the new facilities being constructed. Larger barracks rooms, larger company

operations areas, larger battalion headquarters, and a larger brigade headquarters will allow these DISCOM units to have nearly twice the amount of space that they have now.

The WBR project affects many of the barracks on Schofield Barracks known as quads or quadrangles, which are groupings of usually four buildings. Half of these buildings were constructed before 1922 and all are considered historic.

Because original structures of historical buildings must be preserved, DPW and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers were faced with the challenge of bringing the buildings up to safety codes, while preserving their historical aspect.

Although the interior of the buildings will be completely remodeled, the original structure of the buildings has to remain intact.

Smooth stucco walls, and a series of arched entryways characterize the quads at Schofield Barracks.

A distinctive original feature of the buildings are the paned windows. Modern paned windows that copy the style of the original windows will be installed in the renovated quads.

Another original feature, horizontal guardrails that embellish the porches of the old barracks, will be reproduced, but will conform to modern safety codes by the addition of steel cables laced between the spaces of the rails.

In the WBR program, new living quarters, known as modules, will offer 40 percent more living area per Soldier than old living quarters. Each module incorporates a kitchenette.

Perhaps one of the most welcome replacements for the Soldiers will be the full bath in each module complete with ceramic tile and real wood cabinets. A kitchenette with a countertop for a microwave, stainless steel sink and oak cabinets will allow occupants to keep food on hand and offers the Soldier a place to prepare snacks, something that has not been possible in the past.

Each module will have central AC, be wired for cable television, and will come furnished with a bed, nightstand, dresser, desk, lamps, chair, TV stand, microwave, and refrigerator. Future barracks will even have a range with cook top and oven.

Driving up to the new barracks, it becomes easy to feel transported back in time to the Schofield Barracks of the 1930s. The airy arched openings of the buildings framed by palm trees can make you forget it's 2004.

However, the illusion quickly disappears upon entering one of the modules where the modern lodging accommodation of a hotel or dorm room meets the eye with no amenities spared. If it's easy to forget that this is an Army barracks, that's okay; it's just proof that DPW has accomplished what it set out to do.

School-military partnerships produce win-win outcomes

By Joy Boisselle
Contributing writer

Pride in a job well done along with sweat and spattered cement showed on the faces of Soldiers from the 65th Engineer Battalion as they completed the first of several major improvement projects at Solomon Elementary School on June 14.

The freshly completed project was the construction of a new sidewalk beginning at the corner of Carpenter and Trimble Streets and ending at the last school buildings facing the school playground.

According to Kristine Noriega-Artis, director of Youth Education Support Services and school partnerships manager, "Solomon and the 65th Engineers started their partnership in 1996 and today it is stronger than ever." Crediting the hard work and dedication in the partnership by the Rear Detachment Commander, Capt. Mark Molitor, battalion Soldiers, and the school administration and teachers as the reason behind the successful endeavor, she said, "This is a group that really wants to make a difference. This is a two-way, mutually beneficial project."

Capt. Molitor indicated that the project was one cited by school officials and parents as having the highest priority. "Parents and their children had to walk through a grass field to get to and from the classrooms. If the weather was bad, the field would get muddy and so would the kids," he explained. Practically speaking, beyond the partnership, Molitor explained how this project fit right in to combat engineers learning basic construction skills, particularly with cement.

The project began on June 8 when students finished their last day of school. Staff Sgt. Timothy Owens, project NCOIC said, "The kids got out at 11 a.m. and we were here by 1 p.m. We didn't waste any time." Starting from literally ground zero, Owens and a team of ten Soldiers excavated more than fifty feet of soil to make way for the new side-



Soldiers of the 65th Eng. Bn. spread 14 yards of concrete to complete their sidewalk construction for Solomon Elementary School.

walk.

"This has been a great training event for our Soldiers and a phenomenal experience," he added.

At least one shining star emerged from the cement in the form a young Soldier named Pfc. Billy Gaston. In the Army for less than a year, Gaston had experience with cement construction working with his family on the mainland. His expertise helped the team make what was termed by fellow Soldier, Pfc. Misty Brown, "an A+ project all the way."

Motivation and enthusiasm displayed by the Soldiers grew more apparent as the cement trucks dumped nearly fourteen yards of cement along the new sidewalk path. Gaston commented, "This is not just the same old routine. It's awesome to see the work progressing and know that we did it. There is a great feeling of satisfaction."

Platoon leader, 2nd Lt. Andrew Johannes affirmed Gaston's remarks adding, "This is great experience for those of us deploying to Afghanistan this July. Although I am taking a combat engineer line platoon, having worked on an engineer project like this one will be useful."

Owens recognized the administration, teachers, and Parent Teacher Student Association members as the

reason behind the high morale and motivation of the Soldiers. "Every day, we have had lunch, drinks, and cookies provided by Patti Bengochea and others. Their support makes us feel even more appreciated," he said.

Owens further explained why partnerships are important. "Our kids go here and to other schools. Partnerships are great because we are taking care of our own kids," he said, adding, "This is a really good project. We get hands on training and it is good for our community—everybody wins."

The 65th Engineer Battalion isn't stopping yet. Future projects at the school include, refurbishing two bathrooms, installing new water fountains, and assisting the Solomon Elementary Hawaiian studies teacher with the installation of a Hawaiian Ti Plant Garden. For some of the Soldiers, participating in a successful school and military partnership, was a first. Spc. Scott McGrath summed up the Soldiers' efforts, "This was good training for everyone. The biggest plus was knowing that we helped out the school, the community, and the kids."

Forty-four Hawaii schools with military partnerships each received \$5,000 to spend on improvements. The \$220,000 funding came from U.S. Pacific Command as part of the Joint Venture Education Forum.

Lightning Spirit

By Chap. (Lt. Col.) Larry Conway
Installation Chaplain's Office

I found on the internet some interesting items that you may have seen before. These are phrases we've heard or used and did not think about their origins. The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be, back in the 1500s. Here are a few of them:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children-last of all the babies.

By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence

the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man "could bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat."

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or

"upper crust."

Now it is true that we do live, as the old Chinese saying goes, in "interesting" times, times of uncertainty and concern, times of going about our lives here in Hawaii while thinking of others far away. It's normal to have that undercurrent of concern under our facade, to act that all is normal when it is not, since so many of the people we know are deployed.

And it is also true that it could be much worse, and not just in that we do not have to worry about nine day old stew or that eating bacon would be a big event to chew the fat over. But in the uncertainty, please remember that the same God we can call on today was also there for those folks back in the 1500's.

Please remember that our Lord is still there to be with us and to guide us in the "interesting" times ahead, just as in long ago. And also please remember that, regardless of when we live or the times in which we live, that God cares about you also. You do not have to face these times alone.

May God bless you in the days ahead!

Juneteenth commemorates Emancipation Proclamation

By Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Almodovar
Division Equal Opportunity Advisor

On June 19, 1865, Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger of the Union Army led his troops into the city of Galveston, where he officially proclaimed freedom for slaves in the state of Texas.

Granger's ride through Galveston culminated a two-and-a-half year trek through America's deep south, where many states, parishes and counties had not heard of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, thereby leaving millions of African American slaves unaware of their freedom.

It is on this date the African American slaves of Texas and other parts of the South celebrated the final execution of the Emancipation Proclamation, giving them their freedom forever.

The former slaves of Galveston established what was to become a tradition for African American communities across the United States. On the evening of June 19, 1865, thousands flooded the streets of Galveston in celebration. In the years to follow, Galveston and other Southern cities began to structure Juneteenth activities.

Today, Juneteenth commemorates the Emancipation Proclamation and the freedom it represents for the African American population.

The celebration of Juneteenth is not only a show case event of the African American community's positive contributions to the American way of life, but it also makes the statement for all Americans that the United States is truly the "Land of the Free!" Like the Fourth of July, Juneteenth is an expression and extension of American freedom; a time for all Americans to celebrate our independence, human and civil rights, and freedom.

The Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Emancipation Proclamation are the three most significant documents in U.S.

history that exemplify America's passion for freedom. Although each has maintained its rightful place in the annals of American history, only the Bill of Rights and the Constitution receive national recognition, with special dates and cultural festivities.

Americans celebrate the Fourth of July, Constitution Day, and Flag Day, all of which have developed into an expression and ceremony of appreciation by the American people with special events emphasizing the historical importance of both the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

The Emancipation Proclamation, which is particularly significant to African Americans, has recently received its rightful day of national appreciation. With the resurgence of the African American community's celebration of Juneteenth, America is growing in its awareness and appreciation of The Emancipation Proclamation.

Galveston and other southern cities used to start the beginning of the every Juneteenth celebration, with a dramatic rendering of that most important document – the Emancipation Proclamation.

As African Americans from Texas and other parts of the South began to migrate to the North, East, and West they took with them the tradition of Juneteenth. They spread the word that African American Freedom had roots in the celebration of Juneteenth.

For years Juneteenth continued to exist predominately as a local and neighborhood festival, however, today it is emerging as a major expression of African American culture and freedom.

Like Cinco de Mayo, Saint Patrick's Day, and Chinese New Year; the celebration of Juneteenth acknowledges the price, history, culture, and freedom of an important part of American society and helps to unify the nation as a whole.

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25th Infantry Division (Light)
and United States Army, Hawaii



The price of a button goes far in China



Sharee Moore posing for a picture in Beijing, China. The Great Wall is in the background.

By Sharee Moore
Assistant Editor

I wanted to do something daring. Something different. Oh, and I wanted to buy high-quality handbags and shoes at ridiculously low prices, so I went to China on a 13-day adventure.

I recently discovered one of the military's best-kept secrets – Hickam Air Force Base's Information Tickets and Travel. They arrange guided tours to the outer islands and many countries including Australia and even Cambodia. My China adventure package was all-inclusive and affordable, so tours like this are one of many ways spouses can pass the time until that special someone returns home from a deployment.

For me, the quest was on for leather bags and shoes, but my priorities quickly and unexpectedly changed. Here's what happened.

We arrived in Beijing and outside the comfort of the baggage claim was a mob of people stretched as far as my tired eyes could see. As a black American, I felt like a peppercorn mixed in with a couple bags of cornmeal.

I know that my brief descriptions of China's architectural delights will shame our guides, so I'll just mention one tourist attraction.

While in Beijing, we visited the Great Wall, also known as, the world's longest cemetery. It's 4,000 miles long, hand-made and truly a phenomenon. Many workers were buried alive and some were even buried inside the wall.

The only motivation that kept me marching that three-mile stairwell of torture was Bill. The incredibly fit 70-something year old, matched me step for painful step.

My transformation from a

greedy shoe monger began on the day I was forced to wander the streets of Beijing – alone. I didn't have many options. I could roll with the adventure-seeking cousins, one a loud country boy and proud of it, the other an architect, who couldn't (or wouldn't) shake the loud and country gene.

There was the 11-year-old girl who thought I was a teenager. I couldn't convince her that I was an adult rightfully entitled to respect and deference. Then there was the cranky old lady. On first impression, you'd think she had warm, home baked cookies nestled in her apron. Three days into the trip, we all discovered that she would rather smother you with that apron. There were others, but they were all on a fourth honeymoon or something.

As you can see, I was forced to roll solo. As I went about the business of bargaining down the already low prices, pantomiming and using broken English, I discovered that the Chinese people love Americans. They thought I was rich and (sadly) I quickly sprouted a helium balloon in place of my head.

I'd wander into a store and several people would follow me, touching what I touched, wanting what I bought. They wanted me to try on clothes just because I am American. I asked one sales person what she thought of my pants, she covered her smile and said the word "butt." Oh, the language barrier is a trip! I'm sure she meant to say something else.

Interaction with the Chinese people was the most enlightening and memorable part of the trip. On that evening in Beijing, people replaced shoes as my primary focus.

The next day our guide, Scott, told a story that completed my transformation. He

said that in some stores in Shanghai, one button on high-priced shirts costs \$40. Forty bucks can also buy a hearty meal for one person in a fine restaurant. At a medium scale restaurant, four people can order four 8-course meals for only \$40. That same bit of cash can also send a child to school for one year (including uniforms and supplies). So, for the price of one button, I could send a Chinese student to school for a year. (Gasp!)

By day six, I was getting used to the staring, the chopsticks and the squatting. Oh, yes when you go to the bathroom in China, you will balance yourself over a porcelain hole in the floor, all without falling or making a mess.

By day ten, I was tired of the staring, but absolutely loved the chopsticks (I lost five pounds!). I still ooo-ed and aaah-ed inside the markets and the jade, silk, pottery and tea factories. I even managed to swallow my guilt long enough to buy an item or three.

After six cities and airports, five hotels, countless tourist attractions, four tour guides, indoor and outdoor markets and many, many bus rides, I can truly say that this was a fast paced adventure. Daring and different.

And no, I didn't buy any shoes.

(Editor's Note:
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